



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL
TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE

SUBJECT: Assessment Principles Group Update

PROPONENT(S)/PRESENTER(S)

Natasha Kenny, Senior Director, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning (Co-chair)
Barbara Brown, Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning, Werklund School of Education (Co-chair)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this update is to provide information about the campus conversations that will inform the development of a draft set of assessment principles for student learning.

OVERVIEW

The focus of the Assessment Principles Group (APG) is to develop a set of principles to guide practices for the assessment of student learning. To inform drafting these principles, the APG is gathering input from across the academic community on current strengths and challenges, as well as the possibilities for the future of student assessment at the UCalgary.

The APG will be hosting a series of campus conversations for members across the academic community to provide feedback and input into this work. One of the campus conversations will be led by a professional external facilitator on November 29th, 2024, with calendar invitations extended to representative members of academic and non-academic units. Additional conversations will be hosted in partnership with the Students Union, Graduate Students Association, the Student Success Centre, and various teaching and learning committees across campus.

The APG will encourage those participating in the campus conversations to review the assessment principles website, including an overview of the purpose and intent of developing principles for the assessment of student learning at UCalgary, a comprehensive environment scan, a literature review and a summary of APG's work to date <https://teaching-learning.ucalgary.ca/resources-educators/assessment-principles>.

Campus consultations will continue with relevant groups, including the General Faculties Council's Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) from January – June 2025 as draft assessment principles for student learning are developed. We will also continue to work with the Office of Indigenous Engagement and Indigenous Elders to ensure the assessment principles align with the recommendations and commitments made in UCalgary's Indigenous Strategy *ii' taa'poh'to'p*.

KEY POINTS

- The focus of the APG is to develop a set of assessment principles for student learning. Principles for the assessment of student learning provide a framework and foundation to help guide assessment practices, policies, guidelines, procedures, discussions, and decision-making across multiple organization levels
- The APG is currently hosting a series of campus conversations for members across the academic community to provide feedback and input into this work.
- One of the conversations will be held on November 29th, 2024, with a professional external facilitator and

representative members of academic and non-academic units.

- Campus consultations will continue from January – June 2025 to support the development of draft assessment principles for student learning.
- APG will continue to provide updates to the TLC.

BACKGROUND

In March 2023, a group of leaders from academic units, the student experience portfolio, Registrar’s office, Taylor Institute, Secretariat’s office and Legal/Student Appeals met to identify pressing issues related to assessment of student learning, and potential actions to be taken. One of the key recommendations from the group was to develop a set of principles to guide practices for the assessment of student learning at the University of Calgary.

On November 21, 2023, the terms of reference for the Assessment Principles Group (APG) were shared at the TLC under the direction of the VPTL. Principles for the assessment of student learning provide a framework and foundation to help guide assessment practices, policies, guidelines, procedures, discussions, and decision-making across multiple organization levels. Assessment practices are influenced by individual educators, and a myriad of policies, procedures, networks, and supports across the academic community.

ROUTING AND PERSONS CONSULTED

<u>Progress</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Approval</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Information</u>
X	Teaching and Learning Committee	Nov. 19-2024				X

NEXT STEPS

Community conversations will commence in November 2024. Campus consultations will continue from January – June 2025 to support the development of draft assessment principles for student learning.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Assessment Principles Website - <https://teaching-learning.ucalgary.ca/resources-educators/assessment-principles>